

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A method for changing node instances in a content structure between a  
2 first system and a second system in a distributed computing environment, the method  
3 comprising:

4                 receiving a request for at least one node instance in the content structure,  
5 wherein the content structure is located on the first system;

6                 sending at least one representative ID of the requested at least one node  
7 instance to the second system;

8                 selecting at least one ID in the at least one representative ID;

9                 sending the selected at least one ID in a command to change at least one node  
10 instance to the first system; and

11                 changing the at least one node instance in the content structure.

1           2. The method of claim 1, wherein content description comprises an  
2 MPEG description.

1           3. The method of claim 1, wherein the ID is a universal ID.

1           4. The method of claim 1, wherein the content structure is a tree structure.

1           5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of sending at least one ID  
2 comprises sending IDs for the requested at least one node instance and IDs for node instances  
3 related to the requested at least one node instance.

1           6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2                 selecting, at the second system, at least one ID and sending a request for at  
3 least one node instance associated with the selected at least one ID to the first system; and  
4                 sending at least one ID associated with the selected at least one ID to the  
5 second system.

1           7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of creating a proxy  
2 structure on the second system using the at least one ID.

1           8. The method of claim 1, wherein changing the at least one node  
2 instance in the content structure comprises deleting the at least one node instance.

1           9.     The method of claim 1, wherein changing the at least one node  
2 instance in the content structure comprises editing the at least one node instance.

1           10.    The method of claim 1, wherein changing the at least one node  
2 instance in the content structure comprises adding a node instance in relation to the at least  
3 one node instance.

1           11.    A system for changing node instances in distributed computing  
2 environment comprising:

3               a content structure comprising at least one node instance;

4               a first system comprising logic to receive a request for at least one node  
5 instance in the content structure and send at least one ID representative of the requested at  
6 least one node instance; and

7               a second system comprising logic to select at least one ID and send a  
8 command to change the node selected at least one ID,

9               wherein the first system comprises logic to change the corresponding at least  
10 one node instance in the content structure using the selected at least one ID.

1           12.    The system of claim 11, wherein the content structure comprises an  
2 MPEG description.

1           13.    The system of claim 11, wherein the ID is a universal ID.

1           14.    The system of claim 11, wherein at least one ID representative of the  
2 requested at least one node instance comprises at least one node instance and children of that  
3 node instance.

1           15.    The system of claim 11, wherein the second system comprises logic to  
2 select at least one ID and send the selected at least one ID to the first system,

3               wherein the first system comprises logic to send at least one ID associated  
4 with the selected ID to the second server.

1           16.    The system of claim 15, wherein the second system comprises logic to  
2 create a proxy structure using the at least one ID.

1           17. A method for changing node instances of an MPEG description in a  
2 content description structure between a first system and a second system in a distributed  
3 computing environment, the method comprising:

4                 receiving a request for at least one node instance of the MPEG description in  
5 the content description structure, wherein the content description structure is located on the  
6 first system;

7                 sending at least one representative ID of the requested at least one node  
8 instance to the second system;

9                 selecting at least one ID in the at least one representative ID;

10                 sending the selected at least one ID in a command to change at least one node  
11 instance to the first system; and

12                 changing the at least one node instance in the MPEG description in the content  
13 description structure.

1           18. The method of claim 15, wherein the MPEG description comprises a  
2 Descriptor.

1           19. The method of claim 15, wherein the MPEG description comprises a  
2 Description Scheme.

1           20. A data signal embodied in a carrier wave including instructions for  
2 changing node instances in a content structure between a first system and a second system in  
3 a distributed computing environment, the method comprising:

4                 one or more instructions for receiving a request for at least one node instance  
5 in the content structure, wherein the content structure is located on the first system;

6                 one or more instructions for sending at least one representative ID of the  
7 requested at least one node instance to the second system;

8                 one or more instructions for selecting at least one ID in the at least one  
9 representative ID;

10                 one or more instructions for sending the selected at least one ID in a command  
11 to change at least one node instance to the first system; and

12                 one or more instructions for changing the at least one node instance in the  
13 content structure.

1           21. A computer-readable medium including instructions for changing node  
2 instances in a content structure between a first system and a second system in a distributed  
3 computing environment, the computer-readable media comprising:  
4                 one or more instructions for receiving a request for at least one node instance  
5 in the content structure, wherein the content structure is located on the first system;  
6                 one or more instructions for sending at least one representative ID of the  
7 requested at least one node instance to the second system;  
8                 one or more instructions for selecting at least one ID in the at least one  
9 representative ID;  
10                 one or more instructions for sending the selected at least one ID in a command  
11 to change at least one node instance to the first system; and  
12                 one or more instructions for changing the at least one node instance in the  
13 content structure.